

S/N 09/229,229

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Geoffrey M. Wahl et al.

Examiner: Anne Holleran, Ph.D.

Serial No.: 09/229,229

Group Art Unit: 1642

Filed: January 12, 1999

Docket: 1211.010US1

Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR TREATING CELLS HAVING
DOUBLE MINUTE DNA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box CPA
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to bringing the above-referenced application under consideration as a Continued Prosecution Application, please amend the application as follows and enter the following new claims. This preliminary amendment also responds to the final office action received in the preceding round of prosecution.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims ~~1-4~~ and ~~28-30~~ and add new claims 33-54.

33. A method to identify an agent that increases or decreases the amount of double minute chromosomes or extrachromosomal DNA in a cell, comprising:
- contacting the cell with the agent, wherein the cell expresses a labeled protein that associates with double minute chromosomes or extracellular DNA to form a labeled complex; and
 - comparing the amount of the labeled complex contained in the cell contacted with the agent with the amount of labeled complex contained in a cell that was not contacted with the agent.
34. The method of claim 33, wherein the cell is alive when the amount of labeled complex is compared.

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